ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

=:= MINUTES =:=

—OF THE—

Sixteenth : Annual : Session

—OF THE—

ETOWAH BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

—HELD WITH—

Liberty =:= Coosa =:= Church,

HOKE'S BLUFF, ETOWAH COUNTY, ALA.,

OCTOBER, 27, 28 AND 29, 1899.

OFFICERS.

REV. W. L. CULBERTSON, Moderator,.....Attalla, Ala.
R. W. BROCK, Clerk,.....Hill, Ala,
W. T. MURPHREE, Treasurer,.....Gadsden, Ala.

The next session of this Association will be held with Union Church, No. 1., Duck Springs, Etowah County, commencing on Friday before the first Sunday in October, 1900.

Attalla, Ala.
Printed by THE ATTALLA MIRROR, 1899.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Reading letters from the churches.
2. Election of officers.
3. Invite visiting ministers and brothers to seats.
4. Call for petitionary letters.
5. Call for correspondents.
6. Appoint committees.
7. Appoint standing committees.
   (Committees may report at any time when time not occupied.)
8. Miscellaneous business.
9. Call roll and read minutes.
10. Fix order of printing and distributing minutes.
11. Adjournment.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

W. L. Culbertson, Attalla.
B. F. Smith, Gadsden.
J. W. Battle, "
J. M. Floyd, "
J. E. Smith, "
B. F. Kirkland, "
J. W. Willis, "
G. E. Jones, Alabama City.
E. B. Moore, Steele's Station.
J. R. Trotter, East Gadsden.
K. S. Steele, Hoke's Bluff.
W. W. Wester, " "
W. J. Nash, " "
J. T. Chadwick, Glencoe.
L. J. Bishop, Markton.
P. M. Archer, Nash
Jacob Gray, "
J. M. Chadwick, Gadsden.

LICENTIATES.

T. P. Galloway, Buford, Ala.
J. W. Heaton, Hoke's Bluff.
W. M. Slaton, " "
T. O. Heaton, " "
C. W. C. Tucker, Crudup.
W. C. Smith, "
J. R. Tilley, Keener.
W. A. Dorsett, Walnut Grove.

MINUTES

Of the Sixteenth Annual Session of Etowah Baptist Association.

The Etowah Association met according to previous appointment with Liberty Coosa Church, Rev. W. L. Culbertson, Moderator; R. W. Brock, Clerk. The introductory sermon was preach d by Rev. . T. Chadwick, from St. John, 2nd chapter, 5th verse.

AFTERNOON.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator reading 23rd Psalm, and prayer by Rev. J. A. McMurray.

By motion we adopt the order of business of last meeting.

On motion we dispense with reading letters from churches and they to be referred to a committee on digest of letters.

Antioch—W. M. Shaw, A. J Steele

Attalla—Rev. W. L. Culbertson, J. B. Childers.

Bethany—R. W. Brock, J. E. Gilliland, A. Lankford, G. W. Stovall.

Bristo's Creek—C. G. P. Ross, H. H. Russell.

Centre—J. W. Morgan, J. F. Ambercrombre.

Cave Springs—T. J. Rodgers, J. T. Peters.

Dwight—Rev. G. E. Jones, B. C. Miller, T. G. Smith, M. J. Mooreland.

East Gadsden—Rev. J. R. Trotter, Willie Sizemore.

Fairview—Rev. J. W. Battle, J. M. Sitz, J P. Maise, W. C. Smith.

Friendship—M. Tullis, Isaac Gilbert.

Gadsden—Rev J. W. Willis, D. P. Goodhue, A. E. Paschall, W. T. Murphree, J. M. Chadwick.

Greenwood—H. B. Hawkins, G. J. Gray.

Liberty Coosa—A. H. Barnes, W. M. Slaton, J. W. Heaton, K. S. Steele, W. J. Nash, W. H. Boozer, W. W. Wester.

Mt. Ararat—J. T. Chadwick, F. M. Nabors.

Mt. Carmel—A C Austin, A D Duncan, R C Hood, W G Clayton.

Macedonia—J D Wagnon, J R Holmes.

New Harmony—W H Tucker, W C Arledge, G W Norris, J W Alverson.

Pilgrims Rest—S R Vineyard, C N Howard, W H Howard, M H Smith, J W Miller.

Pleasant Valley—L F Bergess, R W Reed.

Pleasant Hill—G F Hazel, D B Epps.

Union No. 1—J L Johnson, J P Bearden, J P Harbow, T H Stephens.

Union No. 2—F M Humphries, M W Engle.

Walnut Grove—G W Camp, B W Reavis.

White Springs—B F Kirkland, J L Jones, C L Stripland, P G Newton.

White's Chapel—T J Wofford, Jr., C E Sutherlin.

Appointed Bros J A Howard and J A McMurray, tellers. Re-elected Rev W L Culbertson, Moderator, R W Brock, Clerk, and W T Murphree, Treasurer.

Called for visiting brethren. Rev J A McMurray, representing the American Baptist Publication Society, Rev J A Howard the Alabama Baptist, Rev T R Hulsey, of Marshall Association, were seated.

Supplied vacancies on Committees as follows: Foreign Missions, W J Nash; Associational Missions, J R Holmes and G J Gray; Sunday Schools, W G Clayton, A E Paschall and J B Childers; Obituaries, G W Camp; Orphan's Home, J W Willis; Finance Committee, T G Smith, C G P Ross, J P Maise.

Appointed the following brethren, together with Pastor and Deacons of this church, committee on devotional exercises: Bros M H Smith, A C Austin, L F Burgess.

On motion all mission reports be read, and tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock they all be discussed under the same head. Bro J T Leaugue was seated as a visitor from China.

Committee on devotional exercises made the following report: Rev G E Jones to preach tonight at 7 o'clock

TEMPERANCE REPORT.

We your committee on Temperance are gratified to be able to report that the total abstinence from all intoxicants as beverages is more and more being practiced by all Christians and we have the greater reason to rejoice that such is the fact with the individual Baptists of this Association. So far as your committee are informed, there are now no Baptists engaged in the manufacture or sale of any intoxicants, though a few individuals may yet occasionally use intoxicants as a beverage.

D P GOODHUE, }
A H BARNES, } Committee.

Above report adopted without discussion.

SECOND DAY.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev J M Chadwick.

The Association was called to order by Moderator. Appointed standing committees as follows: Foreign Missions, J W Willis, W W Wester, J E Gilliland; Home Missions, J M Chadwick, K S Steele, Jos Bryant; State Missions, W J Nash, D P Goodhue, J T Chadwick; Associational Missions, G E Jones, A E Paschall, J M Sitz; Education, E B Moore, B P Hammond, G W Camp; Temperance, W T Murphree, B F Kirkland, H B Hawkins; Orphan's Home, A H Barnes, J B Childers, W A Dorsett; Obituaries, J L Jones, J P Bearden, L F Burgess; Sunday Schools, J P Preston, W M Show, W G Clayton; Executive Committee, J W Willis, A H Barnes, O Q Norton, Dr J A Hurst, R R Yeates, R T Moore, Dr N N Vann, R W Brock, W T Murphree; Committee on nominations, T H Stephens, W H Boozer, B W Reavis.

By motion now vote on time and place. Time, Friday before the first Sunday in October, 1900. Place, Union No. 1.

By motion the following committee were appointed on digest of letters: J. L Jones, J T Chadwick, D P Goodhue.

Called for correspondents. Rev M A Cornetius, M N Sewell, W M Hicks, Rev P Wagnon, of Cedar Bluff and Rev J A May, of Warrior River, were seated and invited to take part in the discussions. At the request of Bro May he was excused from preaching Missionary sermon, and Rev M A Cornetius was appointed.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON HOME MISSIONS.

We your Committee on Home Missions desire to submit the following report: By consulting the report of the Southern Baptist Convention of 1899, in contrast with that of 1898, we find we have 653 Missionaries in last report against 467 of 1898. The number of churches in last report 2,580 against 2,386 of 1898, showing an increase of 194 churches. Houses of worship built in the last conventional year, 92; houses of worship improved, 252; received by baptism this year, 6,552 against 4739 of last year. Showing an increase of 1,813 baptisms. Total addition this year by baptism and letter, 12,983 against 9,509 last year. Showing an increase of 3,474. There have been collected and expended in building houses of worship on the field this year, $50,050.33 against $56,385 46 last year. Showing a decrease of $6,335 13.

The amount raised and expended on the field this year for home missions, $65,818.18 against $54,251 04 last year. Showing an increase of $11,567.77 for home missions. Making a total raised and expended on the field, $115,869.14 against a total of $110,636 50 last year. Showing an increase of $4,533 64.

We are glad to say that both the interest and work done are greatly increasing, especially in Cuba. The Lord has opened the way to Cuba for his people, and we are responsible for the result if we do not walk in and take the Island for Him. This calls for great interest on the part of every Baptist both of their means and labor. May the

blessings of God be upon the head in this great work for the Master.

J. W. Battle,
B. F. Kirkland, } Committee.
W. M. Slaton.

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

We, your Committee on Foreign Missions, beg leave to report that our Foreign Mission work is gaining ground rapidly, which is gratifying to us. Our Foreign Mission Board has missionaries in six countries, viz: China, Japan, Africa, (which are Pagan,) Italy, Brazil, Mexico, (which are Papal.) Last year there were 845 baptisms by our Foreign Missionaries.

We are at present through our board supporting 82 Foreign Missionaries who are doing a glorious work in the spread of the Gospel. This is indeed gratifying to us, but we must remember that in China alone almost one-fourth of the population of the globe are dying without the Gospel. This should call forth more of our energies in the interests of lost, ruined men and women. Our needs may be easily expressedin the language of our Corresponding secretary who says. We need more prayer in faith, more pastors in earnest for missions, more people giving liberally for God's glory and the advancement of His King dom in the world. We recommend that each church in the Association send as large contributions as possible some time during the month of May to the Foreign Mission Board which will help the Board run its business without going in debt.

W. J. Nash, } Committee.
J. T. Chadwick.

STATE MISSIONS.

We, your Committee on State Missions, beg leave to report we are glad to note the fact that our State Board of Missions is in much better condition than for years, and will perhaps go to the State Convention out of debt, which is very encouraging to the Baptists of Alabama. We consider the work of State Missions of great importance and hope all the churches will feel and see the need of a hearty cooperation with our State Board.

G. E. Jones, } Committee.
J. R. Trotter,

ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS.

We, your Committee on Associational Missions, beg to submit the following report: As a body, we are doing nothing on this line. Several years ago this Association decided to engage in work of this character and appointed Rev J D Pettit as Associational Missionary, but the churches failing to come to his support, very little was done and since that time no effort has been made. We believe there is work that should be done. There are struggling churches which should be aided. We recommend that the churches of this association be re-

quested to contribute to the Associational Mission Fund, said Fund to be placed in the hands of the Executive Committee of the Association. We recommend further that this committee be instructed to use said fund to the best interest of the Master's cause in assisting weak churches to support pastors, and in such other ways as are deemed best.

G. J. Gray, J. R. Holmes, } Committee.

The above reports were disussed by Rev J W Willis, W T Murphree, G E Jones, J R Trotter. The hour for temperance sermon having arrived, by motion it was continued until tonight, and the above subjects were further discussed by Rev J T League, A E Paschall, Rev J A Howard, J M Chadwick, M A Cornelius, J L Johnson, W J Nash, K S Steele and W M Slaton, and adopted. Took a public collection, amount $14 30.

The following resolution was offered by J W Willis, and on motion was adopted:

Resolved, That the pastors of Etowah Association be requested to lay before their respective churches during the month of November and December, 1899, this great question of missions, and that these churches be urged to make the effort to have every member contribute at least one cent each, per month for each of the six denominational interests fostered in Alabama.

2nd. That each church be requested to hold a missionary rally every six months.

AFTERNOON.

The association was called to order by Moderator. Recalled for correspondents. Bros W H Logan and W S Bond from Cherokee, and Marshall Landers and A H Minst, of Calhoun, were seated

REPORT ON THE ORPHANAGE.

I submit my report on Orphanage, the following facts formulated by the managers of Orphanage:

Our Orphanage has been in operation little more than six years. During this time we have received into it 49 boys and 69 girls, and out of it have gone 28 boys and 27 girls, leaving in the Institution 21 boys and 42 girls—63 in all.

These children came from twenty-four counties, as follows:

Autauga	2	Lee	10
Barbour	8	Limestone	1
Bibb	2	Marengo	4
Butler	3	Monroe	4
Conecuh	2	Morgan	3
Covington	8	Montgomery	7
Elmore	2	Pike	2
Escambia	11	Russell	1
Hale	2	Talladega	8
Henry	4	Tallapoosa	2
Jefferson	15	Tuscaloosa	9
Lamar	1	Walker	6

The Home is situated on Main Street, next door to the Agricultural School, where no tuition is charged, and where all of our children, that are old enough, attend.

The boys are taught to work on the farm, and the girls to do various kinds of house work. The crop the boys were making this year, was greatly damaged by a hail-storm early in June.

Mrs C W Ansley, who had been matron since the Home began, retired from the work with the beginning of this year, and Mrs Jennie M Hardy, of Greensboro, was elected to fill that position.

It is gratifying to note the continued improvement in the domestic life of the children. The matron has arranged one of the rooms for a chapel, and every Sunday afternoon a happy band make melody their hearts to the Lord.

During this year the children have been put in uniforms, which adds much to their appearance and is no more expensive than their former dress. It promotes family life.

It takes about ten dollars a day to support the family, besides what they get in goods. They have no income except the offerings of their friends "It is more blessed to give than receive."

Adopted. J W WILLIS, Committee.

On motion we take a collection tomorrow for Orphanage.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

It is a boast of Baptist people that they have ever been earnest workers in the cause of general education and some of the greatest struggles of our people have been over the maintenance of educational enterprises. We are happy therefore to be able to report that the debts which have so long hung over our two great Baptist Schools, the Howard and Judson have been paid. It should be a matter of very great rejoicing to us that these two institutions of learning no longer, have their usefulness hampered by a load of debt We desire to call the attention of the association to our Baptist School at Walnut Grove. This school was established by joint action of the Marshall, Warrior River and Etowah Associations. The last session was a most successful one, and the present one has opened with the brightest prospects. We are of the opinion that no better community can be found than Walnut Grove, in which to place our boys and girls for mental and moral elevation. The school is under the able supervision of Rev W Y Adams, and we need make no statement as to his efficiency and fitness for this work. We believe this enterprise is full of promise to the Baptist people of this section, and we bespeak for it their hearty support.

Your committee suggests that the cause of ministerial education deserves some more substantial support from our people than the adoption of reports. We have now an opportunity to do something practical in this cause.

Bro D D Head head has gone from this association to the Seminary to prepare himself for the ministry He is without means to

support himself in that institution. We believe he is worthy the help of this association, and we therefore recommend that immediate steps be taken by this association, looking to his support.

W T MURPHREE, Committee.

Discussed by W T Murphree, J W Willis, and adopted.

On motion, we take a subscription to aid Bro D D Head thro gh Seminary.

Antioch, $2 50; W L Culbertson, $10 00; Bethany, $5 00; J M Chadwick, pastor of Center church, $10 00; Dwight, $2.00; East Gadsden, $5 00; Gadsden, $20 00; Greenwood, $1 00; Liberty Coosa, $10.00; Mt Arrat, $2 50; Mt Carmel, $5.00; Macedonia, $4.00; New Harmony, $2 00; Pleasant Hill, $1.00; Union No 1. J P Harbour, cash $2 00; T H Stephens, cash $2 00; Union No 2. $2 50, cash 50c; Walnut Grove, $10 00; White Springs, $2 00. Total $98 50 Contributed the subscription to aid Bro W A Dorsett at Walnut Grove: J H Richards, $8 00; W L Culbertson, $8 00; Dwight, $5.00; Gadsden, $5 00; Antioch, $2.50; Mt Carmel, $2 50; Mt Arrat, $2 50; Union No 2, $1.00; J L Johnson, $1.00; E B Moore, $2 50; Public collection, $14 19 Total, $52.19

Moved that a committee of three be appointed to take the above subscriptions, collect and forward to the beneficiaries

J W WILLIS,
W L CULBERTSON, } Committee.
W T MURPHREE

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

Introductory sermon, Rev E B Moore; Alternate, Rev G E Jones; Temperance sermon, Rev J W Battle; Alternate, Rev J E Smith; Missionary sermon, Rev J W Willis; Alternate, Rev J R Trotter.

T H STEPHENS, Chairman Committee.

Adjourned with prayer by Rev J A Howard.

THIRD DAY

The association was called to order by Moderator. Read and adopted the minutes of previous day.

REPORT ON OBITUARIES.

We find that God in this providence has removed twenty-five coworkers from this low ground of sorrow since our last meeting. "One by one we'll all be gathered home"

L L HERRON, Chairman Committee.

REPORT ON FINANCE COMMITTEE.

We, your committee on finance report cash and vouchers for Minutes, Missions and Ministerial Education, $194 30.

T G SMITH, Chairman Committee.

The following resolution was offered by Rev D P Goodhue:

That the Sunday School and Missionary committees be instructed to hold at least four mass meetings in different parts of the county.

The purpose of which meetings shall be primarily to promote the Sunday School and Mission work. Adopted.

The following were appointed delegates to State Baptist Convention: Bros J T Chadwick, W L Culbertson, R W Brock, T H Stephens, W H Boozer, W G Clayton, E B Moore. Alternates, F M Nabors, J L Jones.

Moved that Rev W L Culbertson go to Southern Baptist Convention.

The Committee not being present to report on articles of faith, it was by a motion tabled.

Moved that the Clerk retain $7.00 for his services and expend the remainder for minutes.

Moved that a committee of three be appointed to investigate what has become of the J J D Renfroe Colportage Fund.

D P Goodhue,
J L Jones,
J W Heaton. } Committee.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Your Committee reports that they have nothing of importance to submit regarding the last year's work. In regard to the future of the association we would most heartily endorse the r commendations made in reports on associational missions at this session. Adopted.

J W Willis, Chairman Com.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That we as messengers and vis tors do heartily thank the good people of Hoke's Bluff and surrounding community for their kindness and hospitality during our stay with them.

Recess for 10 minutes

After assembli g together, Rev M A Cornelius preached an able Missionary sermon from 1st Chapter, 21st Verses of 1st Corinthias. After which took a public collection for the State Orphanage. Total amount, $35.43.

AFTERNOON.

On motion, all speeches on Sunday Schools be limited to ten minutes.

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT.

We, your committee on Sunday Schools report that while our churches have developed greater efficiency in Sunday Schools organizations and methods of work, there yet remains a great work to do. It is a fact that not 50 pr. ct. of our congregations are connected with our Sunday Schools This must be remedied. What is known as the Home Department of the Sunday School should be vigorously worked by every church, whenever so worked the whole congregation can be enlisted in the school. Conventions of Sunday School worked in which plans and methods of work are discussed, are exceedingly helpful and we recommend that this association make it the duty of the Sunday

School Committee to hold at least four conventions in different parts of the county, and to this end that the chairman of this association exercise care in the selection of this committee.

A E Paschall, Chairman Committee.

The above report was discussed by A E Paschall, G E Jones, D P Goodhue, W G Clayton, J T Chadwick, W A Dorsett, E P Little, J W Willis, J M Chadwick, A H Barnes, Dr J W Lawrence, A D Duncan, W M Slaton, W M Shaw, and unanimously adopted.

Adjourned with prayer by Rev K S Steel.

Rev W L Culbertson, Moderator,
R W Brock, Clerk.

CONSTITUTION.

The name of this Association shall be "The Etowah Baptist Association."

The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall perform such duties and perform them in such a manner as is ordinarily required of such officers. They shall be elected at or near the opening of each annual session of the body.

The membership of the Association shall be such churches as shall see fit and be permitted to represent themselves in its session by delegates.

Each church shall be entitled to one delegate for every twenty-five members, or fractional part thereof, but each church shall be entitled to at least two delegates.

The object of this Association shall be the advancement of the Redeemer's Kingdom not only within its own bounds, but throughout the world. It shall aid and encourage, by means of its influence, those grand institutions and agencies which, in the providence of God, have been established by the wise and good among our brethren for the spread of the gospel throughout the world, for the distribution of the Bible among those destitute of it, for the education of young men for the work of the ministry, as well as for the cause of education generally, for the promotion of the Sunday School cause, the cause of temperance, etc.

The Association shall employ such means and adopt such measures as shall seem best calculated to cultivate Christian unity and Fellowship among the brethren within its bounds, to incite the brethren to love and good work, to stir up the pure minds of the brethren by way of remembrance, to secure individual advancement in the Divine life, in every way as individuals, to illustrate to the world the reality of the religion of Jesus Christ.

BY-LAWS.

1. Preparatory to the organization of the Association an introductory sermon shall be preached by a member appointed at the previous meeting, and another shall be named at the same time to per-

form the duty in case of the failure of the first.

2. The service being performed, the Moderator, or if he be absent, the oldest minister present shall open the Association with prayer.

3. He shall call for letters from the churches, when the delegates shall present them and take their seats in order.

4. When the Association is regularly organized, as prescribed by the Constitution, the correspondence from other Associations shall be called for, the letters read and the messengers received by the right of fellowship from the Moderator. The messengers shall be invited to seats in the Association and accorded the privilege of speaking on any subject before the body, but not of voting on any. Other brethren may be invited to seats with the same privilege and prohibition.

5. Subjects not named in the last minutes may, at the discretion of the Association, be taken up at any time when there is no business before the body.

6. Any subjects not contained in minutes must be regularly brought before the body by motion which shall be seconded before it can be taken up After this, it shall be considered as property at the disposal of the Association, unless it be withdrawn by the mover.

7. No one shall speak oftener than three times on the same subject, unless permitted by the Association. The speaker shall always rise to his feet and address the Moderator.

8. Silence and decorum shall be observed by every member of the Association while the body is in session, and more especially in the time of debate. All personal reflections and remarks tending to wound the feelings of the brethren shall be strictly avoided.

9. No member of the Association shall leave the house while the Association is in session without permission from the Moderator.

10. In order to expedite business, committees shall be appointed at the discretion of the Association, who shall be named by the Moderator.

11. The meeting of the Association shall, on each day of session, be opened and closed with prayer.

12. The minutes of each day shall be read at its beginning and close of business, after prayer, each succeeding, when names of the delegates shall be called. And the whole of the minutes of the session shall be read at its close and signed by the Moderator and Clerk.

13. Any alteration of these By Laws may be made at any meeting of the Association by two-thirds of the members present.

RULES OF ORDER.

The rules of order usually observed by deliberative bodies of this kind shall be observed by this Association.

If any point of order be raised by any member of the body, it shall be decided by the Moderator, but appeal may be taken from his decision to the body. "Wells' Parliamentary Practice" shall be used as authority in regard to questions of order.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

There is one and but one God, who is a Spirit, omniscient, omnipotent, omnipresent, eternal, unchangeable, infinite in goodness and wisdom, of inviolable truth, perfectly just, of immaculate holiness, the creator of all things, the preserver of all, and the supreme ruler over all. The Godhead is a trinity—Father, Son and Holy Ghost—three persons in one divine essence.

The Son became incarnate, thus uniting in himself the divine and human natures, that he might become the mediator between God and man; man's final judge, and by his life, death and resurrection, the Redeemer and Savior of his people.

The Holy Spirit is the sanctioner and comforter of God's people. He is, through the divine word, the author of the new spiritual life produced in man in his regeneration.

The Holy Scriptures were given by divine inspiration as a revelation of God's will to man concerning him, and constitute to him an infallible rule of faith and practice.

Adam and Eve, the first man and woman, were created holy, and for a time served the Creator acceptably, living innocently and happy in His favor, but Adam, having been placed under a covenant of works, violated it and brought the penalty of the violation upon himself and his descendants.

All men partaking of the consequences of the fall, are both totally depraved and guilty of actual transgression of God's laws.

No man can free himself from his native depravity, or from condemnation. No man can save himself. There is no way of salvation but by Jesus Christ.

The Christian Sabbath is the first day of the week, and should be kept Holy and consecrated to the service and worship of God in obedience to the command, "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it Holy," and in commemoration of the resurrection on that day of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

The ordinances of the gospel are two—Baptism and the Lord's Supper. The great head of the church requires the perpetual observance of these ordinances by the church as such and under their authority.

Baptism is the immersion of the believer in water by one duly qualified and authorized to administer the rite. It is prerequisite to church membership.

A gospel church is a company of Baptist believers, organized under the laws of its Great Head for the advancement of God's kingdom in the world. The officers of the church are its pastors and deacons. Each church is an independent body, subject only to the commands of its Great Head. The work required of the church is missionary in its character. "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."

The Holy Spirit continues the work of sanctification upon those

whom he has regenerated to the end of life, and thus saves all who are regenerated from apostacy.

All who will be finally saved were chosen of God the father, before the foundation of the world, and gave to Jesus Christ in the covenant of grace; yet all who will be lost will have rejected a proffered salvation.

The bodies of all who die will be raised from the dead and reunited to their spirts for the judgment of the great day.

In the last day Jesus will come to judge the world, and having assembled all men before him, will pass sentence upon them according to their works.

Heaven is a place to which the righteous will be received and made perfectly happy in the presence and enjoyment of God forever.

Hell is a place into which the wicked shall be cast to suffer eternal punishment for their sins.

STATISTICS OF ETOWAH BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, 1899.

CHURCHES.	COUNTY.	PASTOR.	CLERK.	P. O., ADDRESS.	Membership last report'd.	INCREASE BY			DECREAS'D BY			Present Membership	SUNDAY SCHOOL.			Preaching Sabbaths	Rept. Pray'r Meeting	Repts. Rev'l
						Baptism	Restoration	Letter	Letter	Exclusion	Death		Teachers	Officers & Pupils	SUPERINTENDENT'S NAME AND ADDRESS.			
Antioch	St Clair	N A Hood	M G Williams	Steele's Depot	78	7		1	6			80	7		W M Shaw, Steele's Depot	4		
Attalla	Etowah																	
Bethany	"	J E Smith	R W Brock	Hill	97			2	3		3	94	5	51	Rev Isah Smith, Hill	4		
Bristoe's Creek	"	W Y Adams	J A Brasseal	Aurora	93			2	19			76						
Center	"	B F Smith	W L Brown	Attalla	56	12		9		2	1	26	5	35	J W Morgan, Gadsden	3		1
Cave Springs	"	H M Nipper	T P Galloway	Buford	65	1				1	1	65				1		1
Dwight	"	G E Jones	C McFarland	Alabama City	101			20	12	14	2	106	8	120	A M Richie, Alabama City			
East Gadsden	"	J W Battle	W R Sizemores	East Gadsden	71	1	1	7	7		3	69	7	84	W P Sears, East Gadsden		1	
Fairview	"	J W Battle	G H Beardin	Brice	119			8	11	1		99			T P Hill, Brice	1		1
Friendship	"	J T Chadwick	M Tullis	Gadsden	37	3		10	4			46	8	37	W J Cunningham, Gadsden	4	1	1
Gadsden	"	J W Willis	J H Holcomb	Gadsden	209	1		9	8		2	208		145	Dr G S Vann, Gadsden	E S	1	
Greenwood	"	A N Mince	N W Sauls	Keener	50	1	8		7			52	5	35	H B Hawkins, Keener	4		1
Liberty Coosa	"	J A May	D D Nabors	Hoke's Bluff	205	13	1	3	7	2		214	9	100	A H Barnes, Hoke's Bluff	2&4	1	1
Mt Arraat	"	W J Nash	F M Nabors	Glencoe	57			6			1	62	5	25	F M Nabors, Glencoe	3		1
Mt Carmel	"	E B Moore	J A Glazner	Alabama City	191	10	1	10	34		3	173	6	58	W G Clayton, Gadsden	1&3		
Macedonia	"	W J Nash	A B McKinnon	Coate's Bend	48	9		1	13	6	1	44				4		1
New Harmony	"	J W Battle	W H Tucker	Crudup	84				5	2		79				2		
Pilgrim's Rest	"	J T Chadwick	J A Usry	Gadsden	168	2		5			1	168	6	65	W P Archer, Markton	1		1
Pleasant Valley	"	W W Wester	J W Swindall	Attalla	39				2			35				2		1
Pleasant Hill	"	B F Smith	W H Hill	Hill	24	4		10	1	1	1	36				1		
Union No. 1	"	J A May	S P Guest	Yancey	153			2	3		1	119	5	40	O Q Norton, Seaborn	3		
Union No. 2	"	W A Alexand'r	J A Gallant	Gallant	77	1		3	2		1	67				1		1
Walnut Grove	"	W L Culberts'n	A J Phillips	Walnut Grove	129	16	1	10	8		2	146	9	110	J T Campbell, Walnut Grove	4		1
White Springs	"	J T Chadwick	R R Yeates	Gadsden	75	1	1	3	2		2	76	9	60	J L Jones, Gadsden	2		
White's Chapel	"	A J West	T J Wofford, jr	Sonoma								26				4		

Financial Exhibit of Etowah Baptist Association For the Year 1899.

CHURCHES.	MISSIONS.			EDUCATION	Orphans' Home.	Minutes.	HOME EXPENSES.				Total.	Church Property.	Value of Howard College.	House of Worship at Dwight.	Vouchers.
	State...	Home...	Foreign	Ministerial.			Salary.	Pastor's	Repairs and new Bldgs.	Poor, Fuel, S. S. etc					
Antioch.....	$3 07	$3 07	$3 07			1 25					10 46				5 53
Attalla.....												1 600 00			
Bethany.....			2 40		2 70	1 00	48 00			1 70	55 89	7 50			
Bristoe's Creek.		1 60				1 00					2 60	400 00			
Center.....		2 00	2 00			1 00					5 00	300 00			
Cave Springs ..		50				56					1 06	200 00			
Dwight	6 00	1 00	50		3 15	1 00				3 00	14 65				13 65
East Gadsden..		2 17	1 43			1 00					4 60	500 00			
Fairview		30	45			1 00					1 65	500 00			
Friendship.....	1 00	1 00	1 27			55					3 82				
Gadsden..	15 00	15 00	21 75	$41 60	$10	2 60	800 00		5000 00	365 73	6 299 08	13 000 00			
Greenwood.....		55	1 10			85					2 45	500 00			
Liberty Coosa..	2 92	7 25	5 92	30 00	8 00	1 65			45 00		55 74	1 200 00	4 23		58 32
Mt Arraat	1 00	1 00	1 42			1 00					4 42	200 00			3 42
Mt Carmel.....	1 16	95	4 59	1 00	2 30	1 05					14 59	1 200 00		3 54	6 25
Macedonia....	2 90		4 85		8 50	60					16 85	400 00			10 41
New Harmony..						1 00					1 00	250 00			
Pilgrim's Rest..	60		5 06			1 00					6 66	800 00			
Pleasant Valley		1 25				30					1 55	150 00			
Pleasant Hill..						75					75	200 00			
Union No. 1....	1 05	1 05	1 05	2 73	85	1 40					7 08	400 00			
Union No. 2....	1 00	1 00	1 15		3 10	65				2 50	9 40	250 00			5 50
Walnut Grove...	5 55	3 48		3 46		1 50					13 99	1 500 00			12 49
White Springs..	1 80					1 15					2 95	400 00			
White's Chapel.	2 50					59					3 09				
Total.....	$45 45	$43 27	$58 01	$78 79	38.60	23 85	848 00		5 045 00	382 93	6 540 33	26 050 00	4 23	3 54	115 57

Collections at Association—Orphanage, $35.13; Missions, $14.30.